

S/N New Filing

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**M&G Code No. 23552**

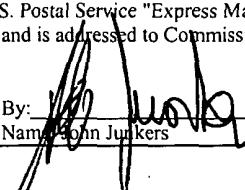
Applicant:	Xu et al.	Examiner:	New Filing
Serial No.:	New Filing	Group Art Unit:	New Filing
Filed:	August 22, 2003	Docket No.:	758.1254USC1
Title:	Filter Element Having Sealing Members And Methods		

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 347838299 US  
Date of Deposit: August 22, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Cont. Appl., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By:   
Name: John Junkers

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Cont. Appl.  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/875,844 filed on June 6, 2001.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to

establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

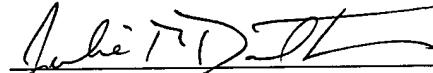
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: 22 August 2003

  
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Julie R. Daulton  
Reg. No. 36,414  
JRD:st

<b>FORM 1449*</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> <small>(Use several sheets if necessary)</small>			Docket Number: 758.1254USC1	Application Number: New Filing
			Applicant: Xu et al. Filing Date: August 22, 2003   Group Art Unit: New Filing	

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1,238,068	08/1917	Slater et al.			
	2,502,545	04/1950	Wellborn			
	2,599,604	06/1952	Bauer et al.			
	2,890,796	01/1959	Blood			
	3,025,963	03/1962	Bauer			
	3,076,554	02/1963	Bub			
	3,209,917	10/1965	Yelinek			
	4,065,341	12/1977	Cub			
	4,767,531	08/1988	Holzer			
	4,925,561	05/1990	Ishii et al.			
	4,997,466	03/1991	Hood			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
	703,823	02/1954	GB			
	1171615	07/1989	JP			
	WO 97/40908	11/1997	WO			
	WO 97/40910	11/1997	WO			
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,137,696	08/1992	Hitachi et al.			
	5,211,846	05/1993	Kott et al.			
	5,229,078	07/1993	Haerle			
	5,304,312	04/1994	Forster et al.			
	5,346,675	09/1994	Usui et al.			
	5,374,402	12/1994	Hitachi et al.			
	5,435,870	07/1995	Takagaki et al.			
	5,472,463	12/1995	Herman et al.			
	5,484,466	01/1996	Brown et al.			
	5,487,767	01/1996	Brown			
	5,543,007	08/1996	Takagaki et al.			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
	WO 97/40917	11/1997	WO			
	WO 97/41939	11/1997	WO			
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						

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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,547,480	08/1996	Coulonvaux			
	5,679,074	10/1997	Siegel			
	5,714,126	02/1998	Frund			
	5,772,883	06/1998	Rothman et al.			
	Des. 396,098	07/1998	Gillingham et al.			
	5,792,247	08/1998	Gillingham et al.			
	5,820,646	10/1998	Gillingham et al.			
	5,895,574	04/1999	Friedmann et al.			
	5,897,676	04/1999	Engel et al.			
	5,902,364	05/1999	Tokar et al.			
	6,004,366	12/1999	Engel et al.			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						

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EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,190,432	02/2001	Gieseke et al.			
	6,210,469	04/2001	Tokar			
	6,221,122	04/2001	Gieseke et al.			
	6,235,195	05/2001	Tokar			
	6,348,084	02/2002	Gieseke et al.			
	6,368,374	04/2002	Tokar et al.			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
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						YES
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